

## Xds

### X-Array™ Double Subwoofer System

- **Unprecedented acoustic output in a small, lightweight package**
- **Ring Mode Decoupling (RMD)™ provides accurate transient detail**
- **EVX-180B woofers**
- **Enclosure shell matches two full-size X-Array™ systems**
- **Optimized for maximum subwoofer -frequency acoustic output**

#### Description

The X-Array™ product line represents important advancements in concert-sound-reinforcement technology. The design goals called for the highest acoustic output capability with the highest fidelity in lightweight, compact enclosures that were easy to array. The development began with a clean sheet of paper and took an integrated approach. The individual loudspeaker drivers, horns, enclosures, rigging hardware and system configurations were designed from the ground up specifically for this high-performance application.

The Xds is a manifolded, vented-box subwoofer system utilizing two 457-mm (18-in.) woofers in the double-wide X-Array™ enclosure shell. The enclosure has been optimized for maximum subwoofer-frequency output. The two woofers face each other in a manifold chamber at the center of the enclosure. This manifolding technique (U.S. Patent Number 4,733,749) increases the acoustic loading, resulting in increased low-frequency efficiency (at slightly above box tuning) and reduced distortion compared to conventional direct-radiating designs. The woofers were designed as part of the Xds development and represent a step forward in state-of-the-art loudspeaker design in

terms of high acoustic output with low distortion and low power compression.

Electro-Voice engineers developed a new technology dubbed Ring Mode Decoupling (RMD™) to substantially improve clarity and intelligibility by reducing both linear and nonlinear resonance modes that color the sound.

The low-frequency driver in the Xds is the EVX-180B. An improved version of the industry-standard EVX-180A high-excursion 467-mm (18-in.) woofer that has distinguished itself as an industry standard for high-power, low-frequency reproduction. During the X-Array™ development, the thermal conduction of the motor was improved and the suspension was redesigned, giving the EVX-180B even lower power compression and a longer mechanical lifetime. In the Xds, the woofers are manifolded in a vented enclosure optimized for maximized subwoofer output from 30-160 Hz with minimized distortion.

Ring Mode Decoupling, (RMD™), is a technique utilized and named by Electro-Voice to describe a process used to improve sound quality in loudspeaker systems. RMD™ offers a solution to a very fundamental problem. It has long been recognized that two different loudspeaker systems can sound different even though they both may be equal-

ized to have the same frequency response. This difference is due to a variety of resonances, or ring modes that color the sound. Although this ringing may be very low in level compared to the program material, it is still audible. The source of these resonances may be mechanical or acoustical in nature, or a combination of both. In addition, they may be linear or nonlinear, resulting in their character changing with level. Furthermore, these Ring Modes may be aggravated when multiple loudspeaker enclosures are assembled into arrays. The result is a coloration that decreases intelligibility and clarity, with the nature of that coloration varying with level. Often, the listener perceives that coloration as imbalance in the frequency response, and will attempt to electronically adjust the system to restore the spectral balance. However this electronic equalization has the negative effect of changing the program material itself.

Ring Mode Decoupling (RMD™) addresses mechanical resonances with mechanical solutions, and acoustical resonances with acoustical solutions. In the Xds development, RMD™ was applied at every level – to the individual low-frequency drivers, the low-frequency enclosure chambers and the interaction between multiple enclosures. The design process included, for example, the driver

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cone, suspension geometry and materials, enclosure geometry and materials, absorptive materials, etc. The result is a dramatic improvement in clarity and with a much more neutral sound (a lack of coloration) with the loudspeaker system maintaining its sonic integrity from the very-lowest sound pressure levels to the very-highest sound pressure levels. This means that the front-of-house engineer will not have to retune the EQ and level settings as the SPL is increased throughout the show. This also means that the sound-system performance will remain consistent in different array configurations and from venue to venue.

The Xds utilizes a double-wide X-Array™ enclosure shell. The height of the Xds is identical to the standard, full-size X-Array™ enclosures (like the Xf, Xn and Xb); however the footprint matches that of two standard X-Array™ enclosures sitting side by side with their sides parallel. Thus, two standard X-Array™ enclosures (like the Xf, Xn, Xcn or Xb) may be stacked on top of the Xds. The Xds does not have rigging hardware for flying.

The durable Xds enclosure is constructed of 18-mm, 13-ply birch plywood and has a wear-resistant black, textured paint finish. The system is trapezoidal, forming a 36° wedge and includes a heavy-duty steel grille with a water-resistant charcoal-gray foam interlining. The enclosure features vinyl bumper pads on the front corners to and feet on the bottom to resist wear.

A variety of accessories are available for the X-Array™ loudspeaker systems, including rigging hardware, dollies, covers, electronic crossovers, amplifier racks and speaker cabling. Consult the *X-Array™ Accessories* section for a complete listing of the available accessories

### Applications

The X-Array™ loudspeaker systems were designed for optimal performance in both concert-sound and permanent-installation applications where studio-monitor sound quality is required at concert-sound levels. The X-Array™ loudspeaker systems work well individually, in small arrays and in large arrays. The high acoustic output from these

compact, lightweight systems provide the highest acoustic-power-to-weight ratio, the highest acoustic-power-to-frontal-area ratio, and the highest acoustic-power-to-bulk-volume ratio in the industry. That means that X-Array™ systems will be considerably smaller and lighter compared to competitive systems having equivalent acoustic output.

With its response from 32-200 Hz, the Xds is recommended for subwoofer and low-frequency applications where extremely high levels of bass are required. Specifically, the Xds has been optimized to provide subwoofer reinforcement for all of the X-Array™ loudspeaker systems. Typically, the Xds would be crossed over to provide subwoofer reinforcement from 80 Hz and below in parallel with the full-range systems (made up of Xf, Xn, Xcn, Xb and Xcb systems that cover 40 Hz and above). However, the Xds may be crossed over at 125 Hz and used as a combination subwoofer/low-frequency system in place of or in addition to the standard low-frequency systems (like the Xb and Xcb). The Xds may be used individually or in multiples to construct subwoofer/low-frequency arrays, or may be used with the full-range X-Array™ systems to construct full-range, large-scale arrays. The double-wide Xds enclosure footprint matches that of two standard X-Array™ enclosures sitting side by side with their sides parallel, allowing two standard, full-size systems to be stacked on top of the Xds. The Xds does not have flying hardware and is intended for stacking only. The Xds would be well suited for front-of-house, front-fill, and side-fill applications. The Xds is intended to be used with other X-Array™ systems for a full-range response as an active system that requires an active electronic crossover. Both the Electro-Voice Dx38 and Klark Teknik DN8000 digital crossovers are recommended for signal control. (See the *Crossover, Equalization and Signal Delay Controller* section.) The Electro-Voice P3000 amplifier is recommended for powering the Xds. (See the *Amplifier Recommendations* section.)

### Power-Handling Capabilities

The Xds systems are rated as per the “ANSI/EIA RS-426-A Loudspeaker Power-Rating,

Full-Range Test,” which uses a shaped-random-noise signal to simulate typical music to test the mechanical and thermal capabilities of the loudspeakers. A digital crossover was used to provide the appropriate filtering and equalization. The test parameters are as follows:

### Subwoofer Section (Pins 1 and 2 paralleled):

$P_{E(MAX)}$ :	1,200 watts
Test Voltage:	58.7-volts rms 117.4-volts peak
$R_{SR} (1.15R_E)$ :	2.88 ohms

### Amplifier Recommendations

Power amplifiers with the following ratings are recommended for use with the Xds loudspeaker systems:

SUB:	800 watts per channel into 8 ohms 93-volts rms short term 132-volts peak
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Xds loudspeakers may be paralleled with other Xds systems as long as the amplifiers can drive the lower impedances. To maintain a sufficient damping factor with long cable runs, amplifier loads of four ohms per channel are recommended. The Electro-Voice P3000 amplifiers are ideal for powering the X-Array™ systems.

### Crossover, Equalization and Signal Delay Controller

The Xds is intended to be used with other X-Array™ loudspeaker systems (like the Xf, Xn, Xcn, Xb or Xcb) to construct full-range arrays as an active system requiring an active crossover, equalization and signal delay controller. For basic applications, the Electro-Voice Dx38 2-in/4-out controller is recommended. For more sophisticated applications, the Klark Teknik DN8000 2-in/5-out controller is recommended. Linkwitz-Riley crossover filters with a minimum slope of 24 dB per octave at 80-125 Hz are recommended, and infrasonic filter protection at 34 Hz or higher with a minimum slope of 12-dB/octave is recommended. Both the Dx38 and the DN8000 offer appropriate filtering, equalization and signal delay capabilities to provide optimum performance of

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the X-Array™ loudspeaker systems. Digital parameter settings for both controllers are available upon request.

## Electrical Connection and System Wiring

Two paralleled Neutrik 8-pin Speakon® connectors are used for electrical connection to the Xds loudspeakers with the following pin assignments:

SUB1: Pins 1 Paralleled

SUB2: Pins 2 Paralleled

The Xds wiring diagram is shown in Figure 7. Since the connectors are paralleled, it does not matter which connector is used as the input or output when paralleling Xds systems. Although Pins 3 and 4 are not used by the Xds systems, they are paralleled on the input panel. This allows an X-Array™ MB/HF box (like the Xf or Xcn— which use Pins 3 and 4, but not Pins 1 and 2) to be paralleled with an Xds, allowing all eight conductors to be used with a single cable run to the amplifiers. Note that, when two Xds systems are jumped from one to another via the input/output connections, the amplifier home run cable will have two woofers on Pins 2 (for a 4-ohm load) and two woofers on Pins 1 (for a 4-ohm load).

## Field Replacement

Normal service for the Xds requires only a #2 Phillips screwdriver and a 3/16-inch hex-key wrench. The drivers may be accessed as follows:

SUB: First remove the grille, then remove the screws securing the hatch on the front of the enclosure. Remove the screws securing the 18-inch woofer and lift the woofer out of the enclosure. In the event of failure, the entire woofer must be replaced or reconed.

The following service parts are available from the service department in Buchanan, Michigan USA:

LF #818-2883 EVX-180B complete driver

The complete drivers are available only for repair replacement and are not available for general sale.

## Architects' and Engineers' Specifications

The loudspeaker system shall be a two-driver, manifolded, vented-box low-frequency system with a frequency response from 32-200 Hz. The loudspeaker system also shall have two 457-mm (18-in.) low-frequency woofers and each shall have an 8-ohm, 101-mm (4-in.) diameter voice coil and a 600-watt power rating. The enclosure shall be constructed of 18-mm thick, 13-ply birch plywood, and shall be trapezoidal, forming an 36° wedge and be 914 mm (36.00 in.) high, 1166 mm (45.92 in.) wide at the front, 736 mm (28.98 in.) wide at the back and 759 mm (29.88 in.) deep, and shall weigh 121 kg (267 lb).

The loudspeaker system shall be the Electro-Voice Xds.

## Electronic Accessories:

**Klark Teknik DN8000 Digital Controller:** The DN8000 digital electronic loudspeaker controller has a two-in/five-out architecture, with each output having programmable high-pass and low-pass filters, four-band equalization, signal delay, compressor-limiter-and noise-gate functions. Program parameters for optimal performance of the X-Array™ systems are available. Klark Teknik, Klark Industrial Park, Walter Nash Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY11 7HJ England, 44-156-274-1515

**Electro-Voice Dx38 Digital Controller:** The Dx38 digital electronic loudspeaker controller has a two-in/four-out architecture, with each output having programmable high-pass and low-pass filters, four-band equalization, signal delay compressor and limiter functions. Program parameters for optimal performance of the X-Array™ systems are available. Electro-Voice, 600 Cecil St., Buchanan, MI 49107 USA, 616/695-6831

**Electro-Voice P3000 Power Amplifiers:** The stereo P3000 power amplifiers are rated at 800 watts into 8 ohms, or 93-volts rms short term. The amplifiers are 3-U high and weigh 28 kg (62 lb) each. EVI Audio, 600 Cecil St., Buchanan, MI 49107 USA, 616/695-6831

**X-Array™ Amplifier Racks:** These 16-U racks will hold four Electro-Voice P3000 power amplifiers, one Klark Teknik DN8000 digital controller, 1-U light module, and a 2-U multipin patch panel. The aluminum-frame/wood-panel racks are vibration-isolation mounted on heavy-duty wheel boards and come prewired for AC power, audio and control signal sends and Neutrik® Speakon speaker connectors. db Sound, L.P., 1219 Rand Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016 USA, 847/299-0357

**X-Array™ Speaker Cables:** Eight conductor cable with four #11 AWG conductors and four #13 AWG connectors. The larger conductors are used in the LF bands for increased damping factor. Lengths made to order. Standard terminations are Neutrik Speakon™ NL8FC connectors wired to X-Array™ standards; however, custom terminations are available. Entertainment Technology Cable, 1247 Rand Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016 USA, 800/529-6312

## Miscellaneous Accessories:

**X-Array™ Loudspeaker Covers:** Heavy-duty covers are available for the X-Array™ speakers. These covers wrap around the enclosures, while sitting on a dolly, and Velcro together at the back for fast installation and removal. db Sound, L.P., 1219 Rand Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016 USA, 847/299-0357

**X-Array™ Dolly Boards:** Double-wide dolly built to hold four X-Array™ loudspeakers, two wide by two high. The double-thick 18-mm birch-plywood construction includes cutouts and keys for loudspeaker enclosure shape and alignment feet. The dolly boards are painted black and utilize four extra-heavy-duty 4-inch x 2-inch casters. Custom-designed dolly boards are also available to meet specific requirements. R&R Cases and Cabinets, 1217 Rand Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016 USA, 847/299-8100

**Racks and Road Cases:** A variety of general purpose, custom racks and hard-shell road cases are available for touring or permanent-installation applications. R&R Cases and Cabinets, 1217 Rand Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016 USA, 847/299-8100

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### Limited Warranty

Electro-Voice products are guaranteed against malfunction due to defects in materials or workmanship for a specified period, as noted in the individual product-line statement(s) below, or in the individual product data sheet or owner's manual, beginning with the date of original purchase. If such malfunction occurs during the specified period, the product will be repaired or replaced (at our option) without charge. The product will be returned to the customer prepaid. **Exclusions and Limitations:** The Limited Warranty does not apply to: (a) exterior finish or appearance; (b) certain specific items described in the individual product-line statement(s) below, or in the individual product data sheet or owner's manual; (c) malfunction resulting from use or operation of the product other than as specified in the product data sheet or owner's manual; (d) malfunction resulting from misuse or abuse of the product; or (e) malfunction occurring at any time after repairs have been made to the product by anyone other than Electro-Voice Service or any of its authorized service representatives. **Obtaining Warranty Service:** To obtain warranty service, a customer must deliver the product, prepaid, to Electro-Voice Service or any of its authorized service representatives together with proof of purchase of the product in the form of a bill of sale or receipted invoice. A list of authorized service representatives is available from Electro-Voice Service at 600 Cecil Street, Buchanan, MI 49107 (800/234-6831 or FAX 616/695-4743). **Incidental and Consequential Damages Excluded:** Product repair or replacement and return to the customer are the only remedies provided to the customer. Electro-Voice shall not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages including, without limitation, injury to persons or property or loss of use. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. **Other Rights:** This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to

state.

**Electro-Voice Speakers and Speaker Systems** are guaranteed against malfunction due to defects in materials or workmanship for a period of five (5) years from the date of original purchase. The Limited Warranty does not apply to burned voice coils or malfunctions such as cone and/or coil damage resulting from improperly designed enclosures. Electro-Voice active electronics associated with the speaker systems are guaranteed for three (3) years from the date of original purchase. Additional details are included in the Uniform Limited Warranty statement.

**Electro-Voice Accessories** are guaranteed against malfunction due to defects in materials or workmanship for a period of one (1) year from the date of original purchase. Additional details are included in the Uniform Limited Warranty statement.

**For warranty repair** or service information, contact the service repair department at: 616/695-6831 or 800/685-2606.

**For technical assistance,** contact Technical Support at 800/234-6831 or 616/695-6831, M-F, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Specifications subject to change without notice.

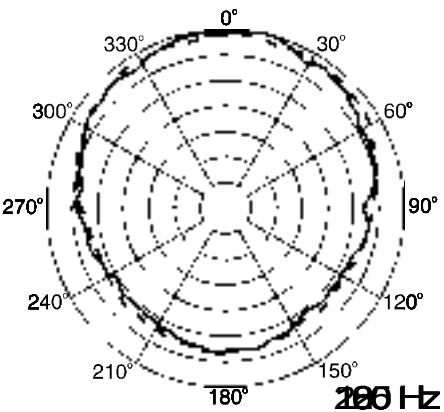
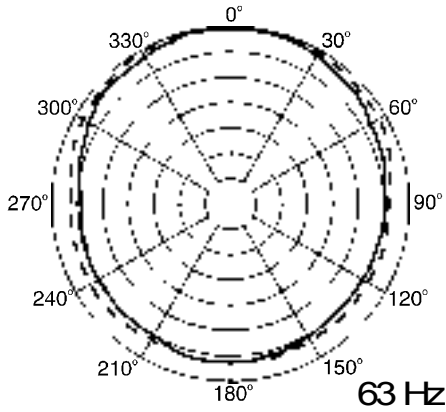
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**Figure 1 — Polar Response**

The directional response of the Xds was measured in an anechoic environment at a distance of 6.1 m (20 ft.) using 1/3-octave-filtered pink noise with a full spherical measurement system. The polar response of the loudspeaker system at selected 1/3-octave frequencies is shown. The selected frequencies are representative of the polar response of the system.

--- Vertical  
— Horizontal  
5 dB per division

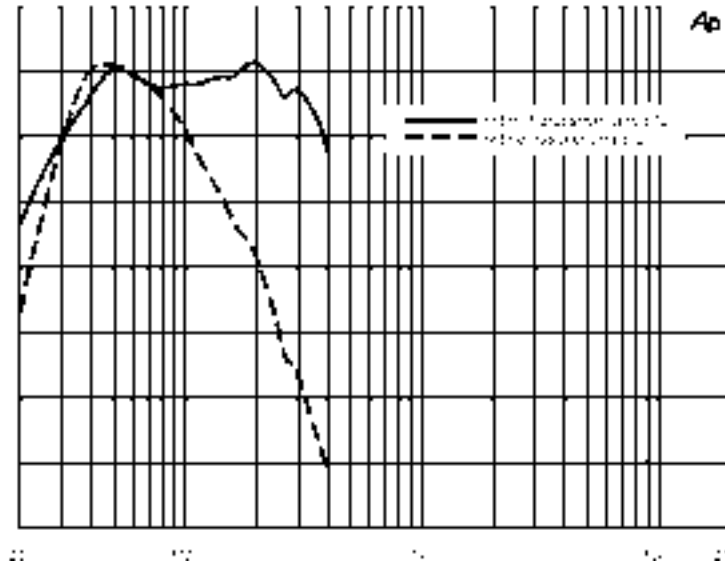
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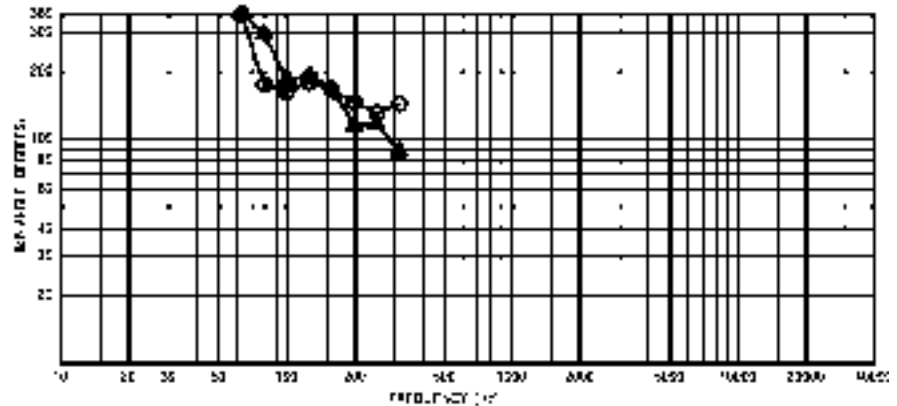
**Figure 2 — Frequency Response**

The frequency response of the Xds was measured on axis in the far field in an anechoic environment using a swept sine-wave signal. The Klark Teknik DN8000 digital electronic unit was used to provide the necessary crossover filters, equalization and time delay. One watt of power (2.00-volts rms at 70 Hz) was applied to the mid band of the low-frequency section. The sound pressure level was normalized for an equivalent one-meter distance.



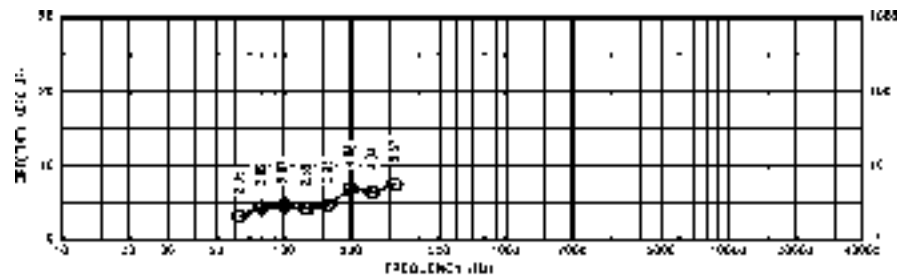
**Figure 3 — Beamwidth**

The beamwidth of the Xds, (i.e., the included horizontal and vertical coverage angles at the -6-dB points) was measured with a full-spherical measurement system as described in Figure 1.



**Figure 4 — Directivity**

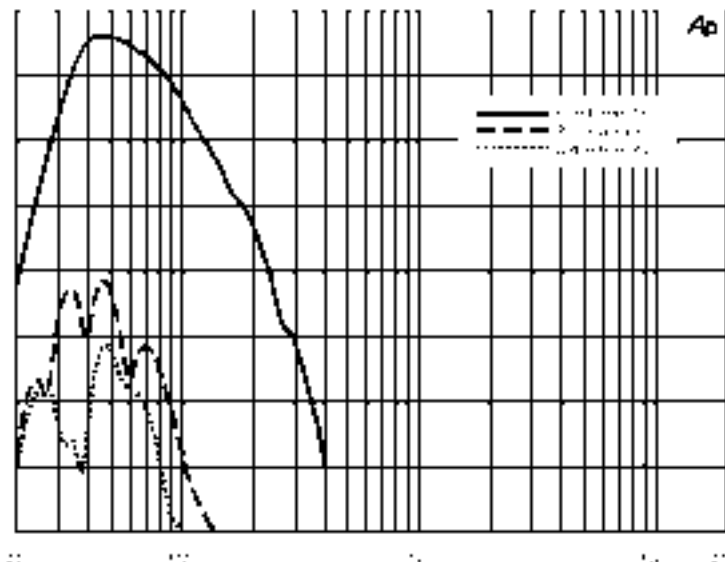
The directivity index,  $D_p$ , and directivity factor,  $R$ , of the Xds were measured with a full-spherical measurement system as described in Figure 1.



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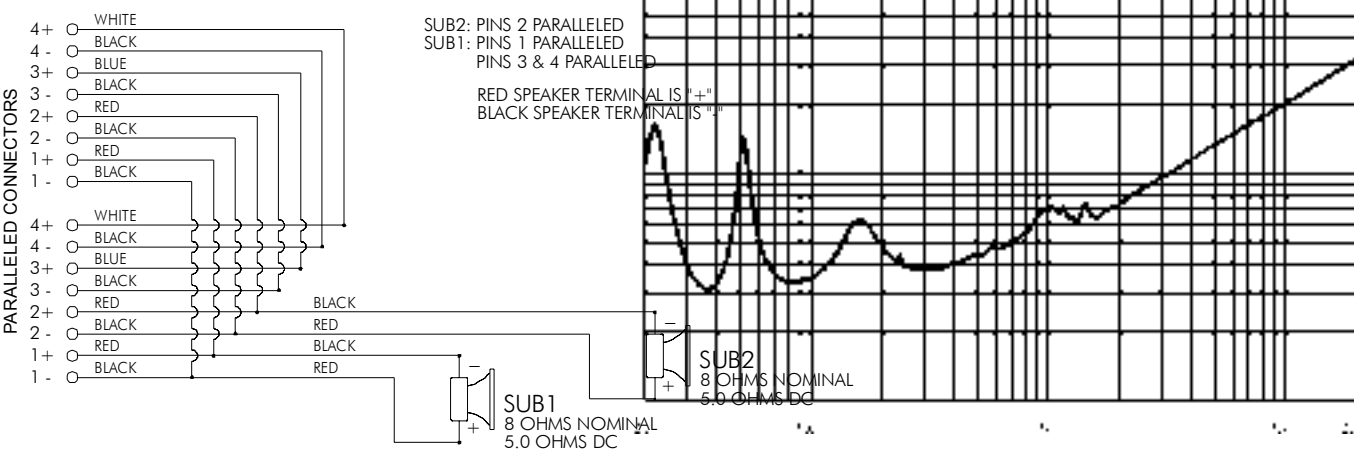
**Figure 5 — Distortion**

Distortion for the Xds was measured on axis in the far field in an anechoic environment with an input signal that would result in a sound pressure level of 115 dB at one meter. The Klark Teknik DN8000 digital electronic unit was used to provide the necessary cross-over filters, equalization and time delay. The sound pressure level was normalized for an equivalent one-meter distance. Plots of second and third harmonic distortion are shown referenced to the fundamental.



**Figure 6 — Impedance**

The impedance of each frequency band of the Xds was measured in an anechoic environment

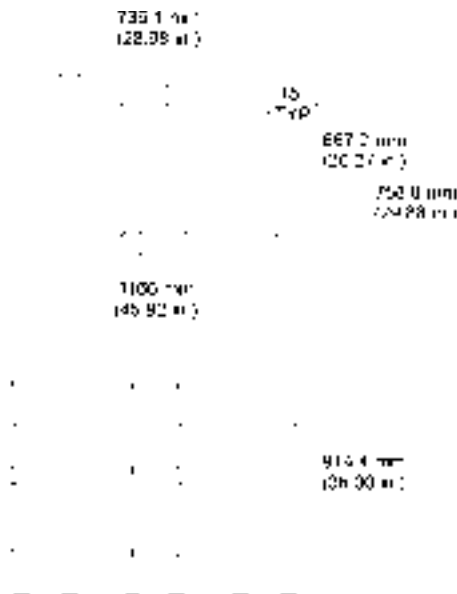


**Figure 7 — Wiring Diagram**

The wiring diagram of each frequency band of the Xds is shown.

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Figure 8—Dimensions



## Specifications

**Frequency Response** (measured in far field, with and without crossover and equalization, calculated to one meter on axis, swept sine wave, one watt into system - 2.00 V at 70 Hz, anechoic environment; see Figure 2):

32-200 Hz

**Crossover Frequency:**

80-125 Hz

**Efficiency Mid Band:**

6.0 %

**Maximum Long-Term-Average Power-Handling Capacity** (per ANSI/EIA RS-426A 1980):

1,200 watts

**Maximum Long-Term-Average Mid-Band Acoustic Output, LF/HF:**

72 acoustic watts

**Sensitivity (SPL at one meter, indicated input power, anechoic environment, average level),**

1 watt:

100 dB

1,200 watts:

130.8 dB

**Beamwidth** (angle included by 6-dB-down points on polar responses,

indicated one-third-octave bands of pink noise; see Figures 1 and 3),

**Horizontal, 63-200 Hz:**

180° (+180°, -40°)

**Vertical, 63-200 Hz:**

200° (+160°, -80°)

**Directivity Factor, R (Q), 63-200 Hz Average** (see Figure 4):

3.0 (+1.9, -1.0)

**Directivity Index, D<sub>p</sub>, 63-200 Hz Average** (see Figure 4):

4.8 dB (+2.1 dB, -1.7 dB)

**Distortion** (115 dB SPL at one meter, shaped spectrum; see Figure 5),

**Second Harmonic,**

40 Hz:

0.6%

80 Hz:

0.2 %

**Third Harmonic,**

40 Hz:

0.3 %

80 Hz:

0.1 %

**Transducer Complement,**

Two EVX-180B 18-in. woofers

**Impedance** (see Figure 6),

**Nominal:**

Two 8-ohm loads

**Minimum:**

Two 6.1-ohm loads

## Input Connections:

Two Neutrik NL8MPR Speakon® connectors paralleled

**Recommended Amplifier Power, Rating:**

800 watts per channel @ 8 ohms (93-volts rms short term)

**Enclosure Construction,**

**Enclosure Shell:**

18-mm, 13-ply birch plywood

**Finish:**

Black textured paint

**Grille:**

Powder-coated steel with foam

**Dimensions,**

**Height:**

914.4 mm (36.00 in.)

**Width (front):**

1166 mm (45.92 in.)

**Width (back):**

736.1 mm (28.98 in.)

**Depth:**

758.8 mm (29.88 in.)

**Angle:**

36° wedge

**Net Weight:**

121 kg (267 lb)

**Shipping Weight:**

130 kg (282 lb)

# Electro-Voice®

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